



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jeffrey D. Ollis et al.
Serial No.: 09/938,366
Filed: 08/24/01
Title: ARCHITECTURE FOR LINKING MULTIPLE INTERNET
PROTOCOL TELEPHONY DEVICES HAVING A COMMON
TELEPHONE NUMBER
Art Unit: 2642
Examiner: Unassigned
Docket No.: D2653

Box Missing Parts
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In regard to the above-identified application, please enter the following preliminary amendment and remarks:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph **0009** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0009] -- Figure 3 is a block diagram of the logical connections between a calling agent and end devices according to a first embodiment of the invention.--

Please replace paragraph **0017** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0017] -- Figure 3 illustrates one embodiment of the invention. The present system has a call agent (CA) in which resides most of the intelligence for the system. The CA handles call control operations, and has access to data bases that define the location, type, and internet addresses of the end points etc. Typically, a subscriber to VoIP will provide information concerning appliances that are to be connected to an IP network, and this information is then loaded into the data base

of the CA. In the embodiments illustrated here, these will be a single video telephony device (VTD) and single voice-only telephone. However, a multiplicity of such devices, as well as any other communication device, can be used, and in any combination. Each of these devices is connected to a media telephony adapter (MTA), a gateway which handles the translation of information to and from packetized form. The MTA associated with the VTD in this embodiment is built into the VTD itself; the other MTA is provided with a number of ports, to which voice only telephone devices can be attached. Each MTA has a fully formed domain name that is known to the CA.- -

Please replace paragraph [0018] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0018] -- One of the two MTDs is designated as a master and the other a slave by the end user. (This designation carries over to the telephony devices with which they are connected.) For example, in this embodiment, the VTD is the master and the audio-only MTA is the slave. In the event of an incoming telephone call, the CA looks up the telephone number that has been dialed at the far end and associates it with two devices, the MTA of the VTD and the MTA of the voice-only MTA. Each of these has a fully defined address under IP by which the CA can form a communication link with the MTA. In the embodiment of Figure 3 the CA contacts the master VTD, which then forms a bridge with the other MTA over which communication can be joined. In an alternative embodiment, not shown, the CA contacts both MTAs, but again, the master MTA is responsible for forming the bridge. (In an alternative embodiment, whichever device is picked up first serves as the "master" that forms the bridge. However, it is preferred that only one device serve as the master so as to keep costs to a minimum.)- -

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the drawings as follows:

Figure "3A" is relabeled Figure "3" as Figure 3B was inadvertently omitted from the application when filed on August 24, 2001, and all references to Figure 3B have been removed from the application by this Preliminary Amendment. A clean replacement Figure 3 is included in this

Preliminary Amendment for scanning purposes, as well as a marked-up Figure 3 showing the change made in red.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-38 are pending.

REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment before the first Office Action.

Claims 1-38 are pending herein.

The specification is amended to remove all references to Figure 3B, which was inadvertently omitted from the application when filed on August 24, 2001. In addition, the specification is amended to change all references to "Fig. 3A" to "Fig. 3", as Figure 3B was inadvertently omitted from the application when filed on August 24, 2001, and Fig. 3B is removed from the application by this Preliminary Amendment.

The drawings are amended to correct the label of Figure "3A" to Figure "3", as Figure 3B has been removed from the application by this Preliminary Amendment.

Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the specification by this preliminary amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**".

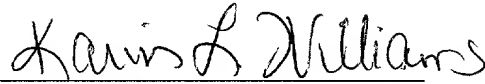
CONCLUSION

Applicant submits Claims 1-38 are in condition for examination, early notification of which is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

FEES

If there are any fees due and owing in respect to this amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version with markings to show changes made

In the specification:

Paragraph 0009:

[0009] Figure[s] 3[a and 3b are] is a block diagram[s] of the logical connections between a calling agent and end devices according to a first [and second] embodiment[s] of the invention.

Paragraph 0017:

[0017] Figure 3[a] illustrates one embodiment of the invention. The present system has a call agent (CA) in which resides most of the intelligence for the system. The CA handles call control operations, and has access to data bases that define the location, type, and internet addresses of the end points etc. Typically, a subscriber to VoIP will provide information concerning appliances that are to be connected to an IP network, and this information is then loaded into the data base of the CA. In the embodiments illustrated here, these will be a single video telephony device (VTD) and single voice-only telephone. However, a multiplicity of such devices, as well as any other communication device, can be used, and in any combination. Each of these devices is connected to a media telephony adapter (MTA), a gateway which handles the translation of information to and from packetized form. The MTA associated with the VTD in this embodiment is built into the VTD itself; the other MTA is provided with a number of ports, to which voice only telephone devices can be attached. Each MTA has a fully formed domain name that is known to the CA.

Paragraph 0018:

[0018] One of the two MTDs is designated as a master and the other a slave by the end user. (This designation carries over to the telephony devices with which they are connected.) For example, in this embodiment, the VTD is the master and the audio-only MTA is the slave. In the event of an incoming telephone call, the CA looks up the telephone number that has been dialed at the far end and associates it with two devices, the MTA of the VTD and the MTA of the voice-only MTA. Each of these has a fully defined address under IP by which the CA can form a communication link with the MTA. In the embodiment of Figure 3[a] the CA contacts the master VTD, which then forms a bridge with the other MTA over which communication can be joined. In [the] an alternative embodiment, not shown [of Figure 3b], the CA contacts both MTAs, but again, the master MTA is responsible for forming the bridge. (In an alternative embodiment, whichever device is picked up first serves as the “master” that forms the bridge. However, it is preferred that only one device serve as the master so as to keep costs to a minimum.)

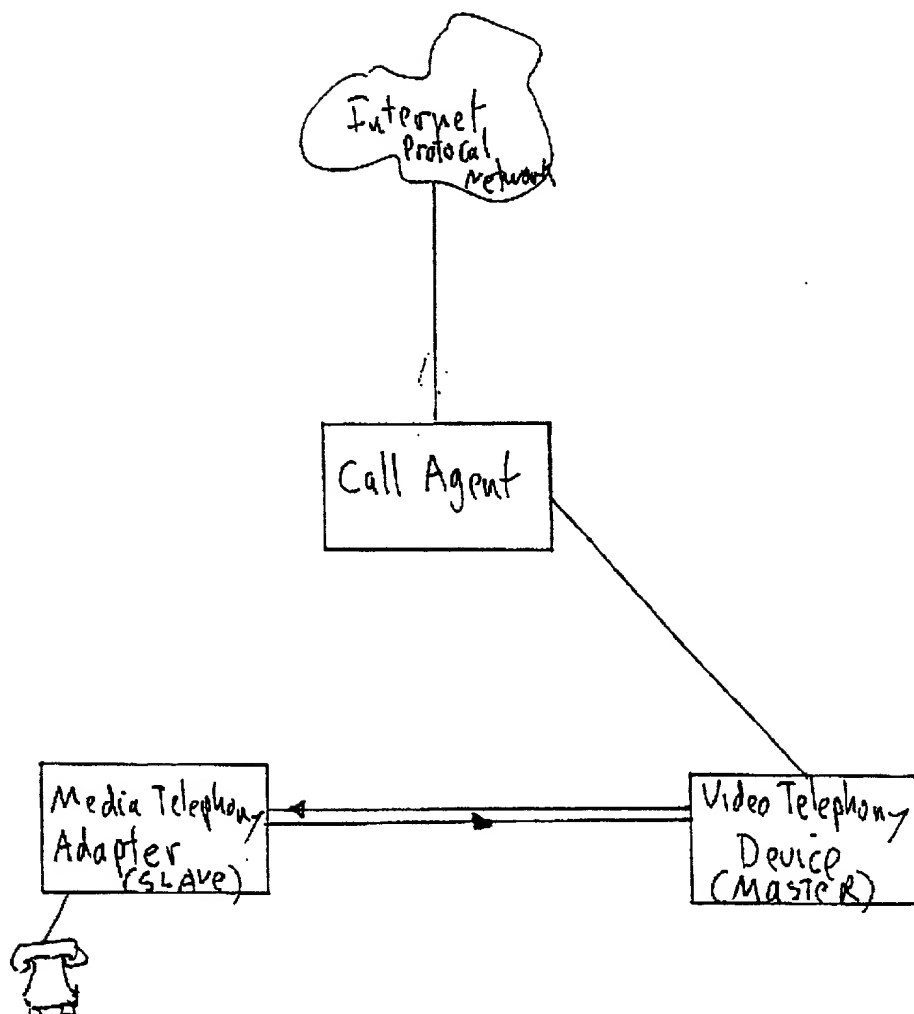


Fig. ~~34~~ 3